GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:139
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
DECLINE IN POPULATION OF ROYAL BENGAL TIGERS
Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of Royal Bengal Tigers has come down to 319 from 632 as counted in 1996-97;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to protect these tigers and increase their numbers ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) No Sir. The Statewise All India tiger population figures since 1972 till the last such estimation done in 2001-02 are at Annexure-1.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The steps taken by Government of India to conserve tigers are at Annexure-2.

Annexure-1

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.139 REGARDING DECLINE IN POPULATION OF ROYAL BENGAL TIGERS DUE FOR REPLY ON 25-07-2005.

POPULATION OF TIGERS IN THE COUNTRY AS REPORTED BY THE STATES

S.N	NAME OF THE STATE	1972	1979	1984	1989	1993	1997	2001-02##
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	35	148	164	235	197	171	192
2	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	69	139	219	135	180		61###
3	ASSAM		147	300	376	376	325	458 354
4	BIHAR		85	110	138	157	137	103 76
5	CHHATTISGARH	-	-	-	-	####	####	227
6	DELHI		NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL NIL
7	GOA	-	-	-	2	3	6	5
8	GUJARAT		8	7	9	9	5	1 NIL
9	HARYANA		-	-	1	-	NIL	NIL NIL
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH				NIL	NIL	NIL	
11	JAMMU & KASHMIR				NIL	NIL	NIL	
12	JHARKHAND	-	-	-	-	####	####	34
13	KARNATAKA		102	156	202	257	305	350 401
14	KERALA		60	134	89	45	57	73 71
15	MADHYA PRADESH		457	529	786	985	912	927 710
16	MAHARASHTRA		160	174	301	417	276	257 238
17	MANIPUR		1	10	6	31	#	# NIL
18	MEGHALAYA		32	35	125	34	53	47
19	MIZORAM -		65	33	18	28	12	28
20	NAGALAND		80	102	104	104	83	# 23
21	ORISSA		142	173	202	243	226	194 173
22	PUNJAB	-	-	-	-	NIL	NIL	NIL
23	RAJASTHAN		74	79	96	99	64	58 58
24	SIKKIM	-	-	2	4	2	NR	
25	TAMIL NADU		33	65	97	95	97	62 60
26	TRIPURA		7	6	5	-	NR	NR
27	UTTARANCHAL	-	-	-	-	####	####	251
28	UTTAR PRADESH		262	487	698	735	465	475 284
29	WEST BENGAL		73	296	352	353	335	361 349

TOTAL 1827 3015 4005 4334 3750 3508 3642

N.R. Not reported by State. #### Figures included in undivided State.

Tiger census was not carried out. Entire state not covered. ## Under compilation/vetting ### Only for Namdapha Tiger Reserve.

ANNEXURE-2

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.139 REGARDING DECLINE IN POPULATION OF ROYAL BENGAL TIGERS DUE FOR REPLY ON 25-07-2005.

Steps taken by Government of India for tiger conservation

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including tigers against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(ii) Financial and technical help is being extended to the States under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure to provide effective protection to wild animals.

(iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

(iv) The Ministry of Home Affairs has addressed all State Governments to lend a helping hand to the field formations to curb poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(v) A National Wildlife Action Plan (2002-2016) has been launched with several action points and priority projects for conservation and protection of wildlife in the country.